Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

March 10, 2022

The Honorable Alejandra Y. Castillo
Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW, Suite 71014
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Castillo,

We join as elected representatives of the St. Louis metropolitan region bi-state delegation to support the St. Louis Build Back Better Regional Challenge Phase 2 grant application. We are confident that with the partnership and investment of the U.S. Economic Development Administration, the St. Louis Tech Triangle will reach its full potential as a world leader in advanced manufacturing, biosciences, and geospatial technology. This will in turn result in accelerated job and wealth creation, entrepreneurship, and innovation across the St. Louis region and the entire U.S.

We are committed to ensuring the success of the St. Louis region and stand ready to provide long term guidance and support to the Tech Triangle effort, including by facilitating communications and identifying additional federal resources throughout the life of the project.

We know the EDA will see in the application what we know from the ground: a federal investment in the St. Louis metro will result in a resurgence in historically excluded communities and create prosperity for the region and our nation. We urge the EDA to move forward with the St. Louis Build Back Better Regional Challenge Phase 2 application.

Sincerely,

Roy Blunt

United States Senator

Blaine Luetkemeyer Member of Congress

Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

Cori Bush

Member of Congress

Rodney Davis

Member of Congress